

Message Text

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43

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FOR CU/EE, CU/IVP (INFO: EUR/EE); USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, OEXC, BU (POPOV, TODOR)

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL VISITOR: PROGRAMMING SUGGESTIONS

REF: (A) STATE 022650; (B) SOFIA 0196

1. GENERAL: POPOV HAS ACCEPTED IVP GRANT FOR PROFESSIONAL REASONS AND PLANS TO WORK HARD. HE WOULD PREFER LIMITING NUMBER OF PLACES VISITED TO PERMIT IN-DEPTH LOOKS. HE HAS EXERTED SPECIAL EFFORTS TO IMPROVE HIS UNDERSTANDING OF ENGLISH, TO MAXIMIZE EFFECTIVENESS OF HIS PROGRAM; HE SAID HE READS U.S. DEPT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) REPORTS AT LEAST ONE HOUR DAILY AND GENERALLY UNDERSTANDS THEM, INCLUDING SPECIALIZED TERMINOLOGY.

2. PRIMARY FIELD: INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS (POPOV IS PROFESSOR IN THIS FIELD AT "GEORGI DIMITROV" HIGHER INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE IN SOFIA). POPOV OFFERED FOLLOWING TOPICS, WHICH HE SAID WERE COORDINATED WITH GOB AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON LYUBOMIR POPOV:

A. USG AGRICULTURAL POLICY, RESEARCH AND
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TECHNOLOGY: MAJOR PORTION OF PROGRAMMING

COULD BE CONCENTRATED ON USDA UNITS SUCH AS AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE, ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE, FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE. BESIDES STUDYING THEIR ACTIVITIES, POPOV WANTS TO SET UP CHANNELS FOR EXCHANGING REPORTS, ETC., WITH SIMILAR GOB BODIES. IN-DEPTH LOOK AT USDA'S BELTSVILLE, MD., RESEARCH FACILITIES IS KEY DESIRE. ON POLICY SIDE, HE WISHES STUDY USDA ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP IN RELATION TO AGRICULTURAL COMMERCE, BOTH INTERNATIONAL AND (SINCE U.S. MARKETS ARE "CONTINENTAL-SIZED") DOMESTIC. (NOTE: POPOV APPEARS TO HAVE UNCLEAR IDEA OF ROLE USDA PLAYS IN MARKETING. HE SHOULD MEET WITH STAFF MEMBER(S) OF CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE(S) INVOLVED IN U.S. AGRICULTURAL AND FOREIGN TRADE POLICY. MEETINGS WITH U.S. DEPT OF COMMERCE PERSONNEL ALSO SEEM ADVISABLE.)

B. U.S. AGRICULTURAL COMMERCE, DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL: ECONOMICS (NOT TECHNOLOGY) OF PLANTING, HARVESTING, TRANSPORTING, WAREHOUSING, PACKAGING, ETC.; "PRACTICAL ORGANIZATION OF COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES." PRODUCTS WHICH INTEREST HIM (AND OUR SUGGESTIONS OF SITES): LIVESTOCK AND MILK PRODUCTS (OMAHA, MINNEAPOLIS, CHICAGO); GRAIN (CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE, MIDWEST AND PACIFIC NORTHWEST); FRUITS, VEGETABLES, WINES (CALIFORNIA, PACIFIC NORTHWEST), TOBACCO (VIRGINIA). HE IS INTERESTED IN EXPORT HANDLING OF ALL PRODUCTS (SPECIAL PREPARATION, WAREHOUSING, TRANSPORTING, ESPECIALLY CONTAINER SHIPS). (WE SUGGEST CONSIDERING HAVING POPOV ATTEND TRADE SHOW ON PROCESSED FOOD PRODUCTS IN NEW ORLEANS MARCH 4-7, AS DESCRIBED IN WIRELESS FILE FEB 3 (EUR-18).)

C. U.S. UNIVERSITIES: RESEARCH AND TEACHING IN INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS: THREE OR FOUR MAJOR UNIVERSITIES, PARTICULARLY THOSE WITH GOOD LIBRARY AND PUBLICATION PROGRAMS, BECAUSE POPOV HOPES TO ARRANGE EXCHANGE OF MATERIALS.

3. SECONDARY FIELD: INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND UNCLASSIFIED

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TECHNICAL EXCHANGE (POPOV IS DIRECTOR-GENERAL FOR THIS AREA IN GOB MINISTERIAL-LEVEL COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE, TECHNICAL PROGRESS AND HIGHER EDUCATION): IREX, NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION, FORD FOUNDATION, U.S. UNIVERSITIES.

4. RECREATIONAL: POPOV HAS BEEN IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON BEFORE, AND HAS SEEN ALMOST ALL TOURIST

SITES IN THOSE CITIES EXCEPT WHITE HOUSE AND
METROPOLITAN MUSEUM. HIS HOBBY IS VISITING MUSEUMS
OF HISTORY AND ETHNOGRAPHY. HE WOULD LIKE TO
ATTEND MUSICAL THEATER PERFORMANCES, BASKETBALL

GAMES OR HORSE RACES.

5. COMMENT: POPOV HAS PREPARED HIMSELF FOR HEAVY
SCHEDULE, BUT PERHAPS NOT AS HEAVY AS ALL
SUGGESTIONS ABOVE WOULD ENTAIL. HIS SECONDARY
FIELD NEED RECEIVE ONLY LIMITED ATTENTION,
CONCENTRATED IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON.
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